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SOCCER WORLD

20c

THE VOICE OF AUSTRALIAN SOCCER

AUSTRALIA'S OLDEST AND ONLY INDEPENDENT SOCCER NEWSPAPER

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Best in Australia
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CONTINENTAL CHOCOLATES

Australian skipper John Warren and his wife clasp hands among a throng of well-wishers at Sydney Airport last Sunday when the Australian World Cup squad left for Lourenco Marques. Despite the early hour and the rain more than 300 relatives, friends and fans gave the Aussies a rousing send-off.

Aussies sweat in heat

SMALL CROWD TIPPED FOR FIRST GAME

— From a Special Correspondent by radio-telephone —

LOURENCO MARQUES, Wednesday — Local officials expect a crowd of only 10,000 or less for the first match between Australia and Rhodesia here on Sunday.

And the majority of these will be colored spectators, predictably rooting for the predominantly colored Rhodesian team.

The surprising lack of interest isn't really surprising: Lourenco Marques is no World Cup city.

This attractive Portuguese colonial town just under the Tropic of Capricorn and one drumbeat away from Swaziland has not built up any atmosphere for the forthcoming matches; there are no flags or posters to be seen anywhere and even the press and radio publicity is extremely poor.

But regardless of the atmosphere, the Asutralian team has knuckled down to hard work only one day after their arrival here.

Coach Joe Vlasits arranged only a light workout on Monday but by Tuesday reverted to his Korean two-session-daily routine to which every player responded manfully.

On Tuesday night the team trained at the magnificent, beautifully grassed Salazar Stadium, which has a 54,000 capacity and they will train there again on Thursday evening, at 8 o'clock.

Vlasits usually arranges the morning workout at 10, before the mid-day heat of 85 degrees makes life miserable.

We have a very useful training ground only some 10 minutes from the hotel where the team is staying but this ground, just like the ones in Seoul, is completely grassless.

Our hotel, the Girassol, is about the same standard as was Academy House in Seoul with one major exception: it is extremely busy.

The meals are adequate, of European style though everything seems to reek of oil.

Prices are moderate — especially by Korean standards — and soft drinks, unlike in Seoul, can be bought without possessing bars of gold.

Two players share a room of acceptable standard and so far we have no complaints.

Apart from a brief encounter with the local officials, there have been no formal sit-down discussions about the matches.

On Wednesday evening team manager John Barclay will meet the Rhodesian and Portuguese officials and iron out all details for Sunday's game.

The Rhodesians are strangely optimistic about their chances and keep telling to anybody willing to listen that they will win.

One has the impression that through their tactics they are madly hoping to convince themselves, if nobody else.

The unexpected rupture of the team at Johannesburg airport has been healed.

The eight members of the party who couldn't be squeezed in on the small local airliner on the 300-mile journey to Lourenco Marques on Monday arrived here on Tuesday afternoon — after a day's sightseeing in beautiful Johannesburg and without any complaints.

The eight were assistant-manager Les Bordacs, medical officer Brian Corrigan, Qantas liaison official Tom Patrick, ABC commentator Martin Royal and four players: Zeman, Alston, Fraser and Sandell.

They stayed in Johannesburg at Qantas' expense — and undoubtedly much to the envy of some of the "lucky" ones who made Monday's direct connection o Mozambique.

Seoul heroes likely to resume Cup quest

— From a Special Correspondent —

Lourenco Marques, Wednesday — Almost traditionally, coach Joe Vlasits will announce his team for Sunday only the day before the game.

At present all 18 players are in the race for a berth in the team with an equal chance — but some with more equal than the others.

John Watkiss arrived here with a sinus infection which he probably picked up from the air conditioned cabin during the long flight.

However, this is expected to clear up soon after some heavy doses of anti-biotics.

Vlasits gave an indirect and totally unmeditated clue to Sunday's team when in Johannesburg he had to leave behind four of his players for one day.

By pointing the finger at Fraser, Sandell, Zeman and Alston he unwittingly hinted that these four have only a slim chance of making Sunday's team.

If Watkiss' sinus trouble fails to respond to treatment, the giant Hakoah star will also be rested.

I have a feeling that the same team will resume the battle here on Sunday that left it off in Seoul on October 20.

And this will be: Corry — Keith, Schaefer, Marnoch, Ackerley — Warren, Perin — McColl, Abonyi, Baartz, Vojtek.

Confidence justified

LOURENCO MARQUES, Wednesday. — Although nobody in the Australian camp is keen to admit it, optimism reigns supreme four days before the first match against Rhodesia (kick-off time 3.30 a.m. Monday, Sydney time).

The spirit in the Australian camp is very high. All the players are determined to get on with the job of eliminating Rhodesia before taking on Israel.

No one is underestimating the Rhodesians, who are very much of an unknown quantity, but the Aussies rightly feel that the Rhodesians, however mysterious, cannot be in the same class as either South Korea or Japan.

AUSSIES FAVORED

LOURENCO MARQUES, Wednesday. — Local journalists present at the Australian squad's first full training at the luxurious Sporting Club yesterday have made Australia firm favorites to beat Rhodesia.

Though it was just an ordinary work-out by any standards, the Australians apparently were far more impressive than the Rhodesians, who have already trained publicly four times since arriving to a heroes' reception on Sunday.

Mozambique officials and reporters are amazed at the recuperative powers of the Aussies and their fast acclimatisation to the humid, hot conditions.

However, as skipper Johnny Warren commented, the weather at present in Lourenco Marques is no worse than in Sydney in January and February when the Ampol Cup is in progress.

So on that score our team shouldn't be too handicapped.

It will, actually, be the Rhodesians who will be at a disadvantage as they come from high altitude areas where the temperature is much cooler.

ROYAL SERVICE FROM AFRICA

Good old ABC — they certainly deserve a big pat on the back.

After some hesitation they decided to send ace commentator Martin Royal with the Australian team to Mozambique and then on to Israel — if all goes well.

Martin will have a busy schedule during his trip.

He will give a one hour long broadcast of both matches against Rhodesia.

These will be heard at 5 a.m. on November 24 and 28, Monday and Friday, on 2BL.

The evening before each match, Martin will give a preview.

On Sunday, November 23 this will be at 6.14 and on Thursday, November 27 at 6.30 p.m., both on 2BL.

Several times during the tour direct news about the team will be broadcast on 2BL, always at 6.30 p.m.

If the match in Tel Aviv takes place, it will be broadcast full and live, at 11 p.m. on December 3.

So there will be a glut of soccer on ABC radio and it will be your fault if you miss out.

ROUND THE WORLD

Rumania, USSR qualify

Rumania and the Soviet Union have qualified for the World Cup finals. Rumania last Sunday held Greece to a 1-1 draw at Bucharest and the USSR beat Turkey 3-1 in Istanbul to win their qualifying groups. It was announced last weekend that Hungary and Czechoslovakia would play-off in Marseille, France, on Wednesday, December 3.

A seedy FIFA move

FIFA's Executive Committee is believed to have already "seeded" three teams which cannot meet before the semifinals of the World Cup. They are Mexico, England and West Germany. Italy, the European Nations' Cup holders, may be the fourth "seed" if they qualify. If not, Brazil will make up the quartet.

Suspended trio for sale

The president and secretary of Argentina's turbulent Estudiantes de La Plata, beaten by AC Milan in last month's Intercontinental Cup final, are now in Europe, apparently trying to sell the three players suspended by the Argentinian FA after the infamous return leg against the Italians in Buenos Aires. It appears as though the ban on the trio, which includes the brilliant goalkeeper Poletti, applies only to Argentina and that the players can still play abroad if transferred.

Player charged for murder

A match played in Uruguay recently had a tragic ending. The referee, Oscar Maidana, sent off Olivera Martinez from Flamengo Pando. The player refused to leave the field, and having failed to change the referee's mind, bore into him with fists and feet. Taken to hospital, the referee was dead on arrival. Martinez was arrested and is now facing a murder charge. The Montevideo Press is demanding he be made an example to curb rampant violence and hooliganism.

Western Australia in Bangkok

Western Australia is now well and truly accepted in Asian soccer. Having already participated in three successive Merdeka tournaments in Malaysia, they are now off to Bangkok, Thailand, for the King's Cup, which started on Wednesday. Malaysia, South Korea, Indonesia, Singapore, South Vietnam and India are also taking part.

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George Best's romance with Danish model, Eva Haraldsen, is off. The Manchester United star last week claimed he "couldn't be faithful to Eva". Best and his paramour were living together in the Irishman's $60,000 Manchester house until the bust-off. Eva won't be going home. She'll stay in England and work as a model.

● The Rumanians, once one of the most outspoken critics of women soccer (they labelled it "western decadence" and "open air striptease"), are starting a ladies' league of their own. A leading Bucharest sports paper, "Sportul", has gone so far as to advocate such a match as the curtain-raiser to Rumania v. Greece.

● The official film of the 1970 World Cup finals will be an Anglo-Mexican co-production and will be filmed in techniscope. The Mexican producers will be Cesar Santos Galindo and Alfredo Ripstein, the Englishman, Martin Lewis. Alberto Isaac, the Mexican who directed the film of the 1968 Olympic Games, will again be in charge. The Arthur Rank organisation will distribute the film world-wide, except in Spanish-speaking countries.

● **Italy defeated Denmark 3-1 in the final of the first European Cup for women in Torino last month.**

● In the morning before the recent World Cup qualifying match between Morocco and Sudan at Casablanca, one of the linesmen, the Ghanian Andrews, felt ill and couldn't get out of bed. Taken to hospital, he died of malaria the same night.

● **Chelsea's English under-23 international forward, Tommy Baldwin, was sentenced to four months in jail for assaulting a policeman after a car chase on August 24. Baldwin, charged with twisting the policeman's arm and resisting arrest, has appealed.**

● Left winger Jarosik with his two brilliantly taken goals was the hero of Poland when they easily beat Bulgaria 3-0 in Warsaw recently.

● The draw for the 1970 World Cup finals will be made in Mexico City on January 10.

● **This sounds like a world record. In Hungary's First Division Honved was playing Pecs. In the 91st minute, one minute into extra-time, a Honved fullback was injured and replaced by Vari. Twenty seconds later Vari executed a "tackle" on a Pecs forward, chopping him down from behind, whereupon the referee, called Biroczky promptly ordered him off — without Vari having even touched the ball once.**

● Bayern Munchen have invited Vorwaerts Berlin for a friendly match in the Bavarian capital. The interesting thing about it is that one is a West German and the other East German club — and in soccer there has been no link between the two for some 20 years. This new move is seen as part of the friendlier policy of Chancellor Brandt towards the East Germans, even now usually referred to in the West German press as the "Soviet Zone."

● **With four rounds to go, Ujpest look like winning their first Hungarian title for many years. They have a three-point lead over Honved and a further one point on Ferencvaros. Videoton and Szeged are certain to be promoted to First Division and Eger and either Egyetertes or Dunaujvaros will be relegated.**

● Pele, whose 1,000th official goal is imminent, will dedicate this epoch-making goal to all the forwards of the world. Talking about all the goals he scored over the past 11 seasons, Pele revealed that the goal he scored in the 1958 World Cup against Wales in the quarterfinals in Sweden had thrilled him most. With this goal, Pele's first in international football, Brazil went on to win the title.

● **Japan's ace goalscoring centre-forward, Kamamoto, is playing again. Two weeks after the Seoul tournament, Kamamoto made his Japanese league comeback and scored two goals for his club, Yanmar Diesel.**

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First salvo fired

Sir Alf Ramsey and Joao Saldanha, the English and Brazilian managers appeared recently together in a BBC interview, taken at Amsterdam where England had played Holland and where Saldanha appeared as a "spy".

Their "dialogue" produced these highlights, indicating that the war of nerves between the two World Cup favorites has begun.

Saldanha: "It is possible that because of the excessively tough tactics of some European teams the 1970 World Cup finals will end in scandal."

Ramsay: "England will respect the laws of the game in Mexico, but we will not alter our style of play."

Saldanha: "Then England is bound to commit the first crime of the finals."

Ramsey: "You're wrong there. We always play within the rules. And anyway, it will be up to the referees."

Saldanha: "Referees are fast losing control of matches nowadays."

Ramsey: "Taking the law into your own hands, which you seem to have advocated recently to Brazil's players, is a dangerous practice."

Saldanha: "I never advocated any such thing. We also respect the rules, but if a referee lets everything go, we will certainly also try to benefit."

Ramsey: "Anyway, we've always kept within the rules."

Saldanha: "Since when?"

Ramsey: "For over 100 years, since we've been playing soccer in England."

— Curtains —

SCOREBOARD

WORLD CUP: Rumania v. Greece 1-1; Turkey v. USSR 1-3.

INTERNATIONALS: Mexico v. Norway 4-0; Mexico v. Belgium 1-0.

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONS' CUP: Leeds v. Ferencvaros 3-0; Spartak Trnava v. Galatasaray 1-0; Vorwaerts East Berlin v. Red Star Belgrade 2-1; AC Milan v. Feyenoord 1-0; Celtic Glasgow v. Benfica 3-0; Dynamo Kiev v. Fiorentina 1-2; Legia Warsaw v. St. Etienne 2-1.

EUROPEAN CUP-WINNERS' CUP: Magdeburg v. Academica Coimbra 1-0; Levski Sofia v. St. Gallen 4-0; AS Roma v. PSV Eindhoven 1-0; Gornik Zabrze v. Glasgow Rangers 3-1; Norkopping v. Schalke 04 0-0; Lierse v. Manchester City 0-3; Marseille v. Dinamo Zagreb 1-1; Goeztepe Izmir v. Cardiff City 3-0.

EUROPEAN FAIRS' CUP: Southampton v. Guimaraes 5-1; Hansa Rostock v. Inter Milan 2-1; Jena v. Cagliari 2-0; Setubal v. Liverpool 1-0; Hertha West Berlin v. Juventus 3-1; VfB Stuttgart v. Napoli 0-0.

FRANCE: St. Etienne v. Bordeaux 2-0; Ajaccio v. Nimes 1-0; Rennes v. Angers 1-0; Angouleme v. Bastia 5-1; Strasbourg v. Sedan 2-3; Marseille v. Lyon 4-1; Metz v. Sochaux 1-2; Nantes v. Red Star Paris 1-1; Rouen v. Valenciennes 3-3.

HOLLAND: ADO v. Go Ahead 0-0 MVV v. GVAV 2-0; SVV v. Sparta 2-2; Telstar v. NEC 0-1; DWS v. Ajax 0-2; NAC v. AZ '67 2-2; Feyenoord v. Haarlem 4-0; DOS v. Holland Sport 0-1.

HUNGARY: Gyor v. Ujpest 1-1; Tatabanya v. Csepel 1-1; Diosgyor v. Egyetertes 1-1; Pecs v. Honved 1-2; Ferencvaros v. Komlo 1-1; Vasas v. Szombathely 0-0; MTK v. Eger 5-1; SBTC v. Dunaujvaros 1-0. **Standings:** Ujpest 42; Honved 39, Ferencvaros 38.

ITALY: Brescia v. Bologna 1-1; Cagliari v. Juventus 1-1; Fiorentina v. Bari 3-0; Vicenza v. Inter Milan 1-1; AC Milan v. Napoli 1-0; Palermo v. Lazio 1-1; AS Roma v. Sampdoria 3-3; Torino v. Verona 1-1.

YUGOSLAVIA: Maribor v. Kragujevac 1-0; Red Star v. Sloboda 3-1; Celik v. Partizan 1-3; OFK Belgrade v. Radnicki Nis 2-0; Bor v. Dinamo Zagreb 1-1; Velez v. Zeljeznicar 2-2; Vardar v. Hajduk 1-0; Zagreb v. Vojvodina 0-0.

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Inside trio Israel's deadliest weapon

— *From LOU BROCIC, national coach of New Zealand* —

It took the Israeli FA about two years of hard, systematic work to form their present national team.

I warn my Australian friends against complacency.

The Israeli FA takes its national team seriously, with professional responsibility.

And this shows in their play. Israel is a well-balanced side, neither defensive nor recklessly attacking.

Let's run through their players, starting with their star-studded forward line which plays clever, attractive football.

Shpigler, their inside-left captain and Shpigel, their inside-right, are players of international class.

I admire Shpigler particularly who is inventive, skilful and extremely mobile with a flair for slipping into open spaces and even creating them.

Shpigel lacks his colleague's mobility but is strong in possession and hits the ball very hard.

I believe quite a few professional teams in Europe would love to have Shpigel and Shpigler.

Centre-forward Faygenbaum lacks the class of his two inside men, but still blends perfectly with them.

These three usually initiate all attacking moves, with one of them as the spearhead and the other two slightly behind him.

As soon as a move unfolds the spearhead — usually Faygenbaum — dashes sideways or even backwards to create space or interchange positions with the advancing inside men.

In a flash they reverse their formation and produce two strikers with the third one moving up behind them.

MOBILITY

All these three have sufficient intelligence and mobility to execute these well-rehearsed moves quickly.

Left winger Barad very often shifts infield during attacking moves, allowing left fullback Bello to overlap.

Barad and Bello use this move regularly whenever Rosenthal, a midfielder, starts off an attack from the centre.

Right winger Talbi normally plays close to the touchline but there he moves up and down without stop.

At times he also moves to the middle and then his place is taken either by Shpigel or Rosenthal in quick, darting interchanges.

However, both wingers are only average calibre, without any outstanding abilities.

The Israeli defence is solid and well organised.

Goalie Visoker, unfortunately, wasn't busy against New Zealand.

He is tall, brave and very fast with interceptions and appears reliable in his handling.

Right fullback Bar is very fast and a determined, hard tackler; on occasions can be pretty tough.

Left fullback Bello is an excellent ballplayer and good reader of the game; actually, he is a modern attacking fullback somewhat better at creating than destroying.

However, both fullbacks mark very closely.

The two stoppers, Primo and Rosen, either play fairly square covering the opposing two strikers or one plays as a true stopper and the other reverts to "sweeper," giving extra cover in the goalmouth.

Both of them are very fast, hard tacklers and very strong in the air.

Midfielder Rosenthal is a fine tactician who dictates the tempo of the game.

Actually, he is their defensive linkman because the other two, Shpigel and Shpigler, concentrate more on attack.

DANGER-MAN

However, Rosenthal is a dangerous man; he marshals his defence, picks up many loose balls and can also support the forwards without moving too much upfield.

When they defend two or even three of their forwards move back, becoming their first defensive perimeter.

Israel plays a fluent, attractive football which is pleasant to watch.

However, they tend to play too much in the middle as they automatically search out their classy inside trio.

They can create quite a number of chances but their finishing is highly suspect.

The forwards are not terribly effective in the air and they badly need a really good header of the ball up front.

They have little appetite for first-time shooting and usually need a fair bit of room before they let one fly.

The first half of our first match ended without goals because the Israelis suffered badly from "World Cup" nerves.

In the second half they scored four goals but the first two, sad to say, were absolute gifts.

The playing surface in Tel Aviv was in perfect condition.

However, the referees, from Iran, were anxious to please the home crowd and favored the Israelis.

HOSPITALITY

The hospitality of the Israeli FA was truly tremendous.

When we played there, it was 88 degrees, but by December the climate should be ideal for soccer, about 65 degrees, and no humidity at all.

What can Australia expect in Tel Aviv?

I am certain that the team with the stronger nerves will win, as "World Cup nerves" will again be in evidence.

But I think Australia has a good chance — and I wish them tons of luck.

FIFA 'explains'...

The latest edition of FIFA News carried a two-page editorial on the "Rhodesian-affair".

It would be far too long to reproduce here in full. However, some parts are most illuminating — and possibly misleading to the uninitiated.

Says the Editorial, inter alia:

"In October 1968 all countries concerned with the exception of the DPR of Korea met in Guadalajara and agreed to the venues of the two groups..."

What the FIFA News doesn't say is that both Australia and Japan protested about Rhodesia's presence in the group on the ground that they are not an Asian country.

This protest was disregarded.

Further, referring to Australia's forthcoming matches against Israel, the "News" says:

"Some hardships will be caused to Australia as their season has ended ... some financial hardship may also be experienced but FIFA will deal sympathetically if any difficulties arise."

Just how much sympathy Australia can count on from FIFA remains to be seen; so far we have been getting nothing but the roughest of rough deals.

It goes on:

"The Mexican FA was also asked if the matches (against Rhodesia) could be played in that country but the difficulties of finding suitable dates and stadia during their championship were insurmountable."

This is pretty hard to believe. If Mexico had intended to admit the Rhodesians, they could have found plenty of suitable grounds and dates if not in Mexico City then in Guadalajara, Toluca, Pueblo or Leon.

After all, only a fortnight ago they could accommodate Belgium and Norway for some friendly matches — during their championship...

But Mexico were not at all keen to admit Rhodesia — and found an excuse instead of declaring openly that they are not welcome.

Then the "News" adds this interesting piece:

"...but they (Australia) are not entirely blameless: they were asked to play before the end of June, but because of international matches versus Greece they requested a postponement till October."

This is the first time we heard that FIFA wanted us to play in June and that the ASF requested a delay because of the Greek tour.

— **PAUL DEAN**

FIFA DENIES UNFAIRNESS TO AUST. IN WORLD CUP MESS

Some two weeks ago News Editor Lou Gautier put some direct and loaded questions to FIFA secretary general Dr. Helmut Kaser.

Now we have received his reply which we publish in full.

The "Rhodesian affair" is becoming something of a bore.

Neither press criticism nor protests by the ASF carried sufficient weight to influence FIFA.

However, it's certain that Australia has kicked up enough fuss all over the world to ensure that no such circus should occur ever again.

That the controversy has become an international affair is illustrated by the fact that in its latest monthly bulletin, FIFA devoted a two-page editorial to the problem.

Here are our questions, Dr. Kaser's answers and in brackets our Editor's remarks.

● *Can we have FIFA's official reason for withdrawing Rhodesia from the African elimination group?*

It is well known that when the World Cup Organising Committee met in Casablanca in February, 1968, the decision of the political powers in Africa not to maintain any sort of relations with the Rhodesian Government was already in force. Furthermore, Rhodesia was not a member of the African Football Confederation, and the African representatives stated quite clearly that no African country would be in a position to play a Rhodesian team.

(Why wasn't that sufficient reason for FIFA to refuse Rhodesia's World Cup nomination? Since ALL other countries have been grouped according to geographical areas, this should have automatically prevented Rhodesia from entering.)

● *Why was Rhodesia lumped with Oceania and Asian Confederation members and not with, say, Portugal and the allegedly neutral Switzerland, countries which recognize them politically and would have presented less arduous travelling arrangements?*

The number of entries to the World Cup will clearly answer your question: 30 European national associations entered the preliminary competition, whereas Africa, Asia and Oceania altogether only entered 18 teams. Your insinuation that FIFA is determined to preserve Rhodesia is absolutely misplaced, and so is your expression concerning "the allegedly neutral Swiss", as you may certainly have made a rough calculation and seen that in Europe 78 World Cup matches were to be played, and that the groups were as follows: five groups with four teams, and three groups with three teams. May I furthermore point out that when in 1963 South Africa was included in the Asian Group there was no protest.

(Surely Europe could have accommodated one more team, in one of those groups where only three countries took part. As for South Africa in 1963, there was no protest about them because they were later expelled from FIFA.)

● *From an Australian viewpoint FIFA appears to have been intent on blocking Australia's passage to Mexico. If successful, Australia may have had to play up to 10 matches to qualify for the finals — in widely scattered places. No other country ever underwent such a marathon to qualify in the history of the World Cup.*

First of all, would you please note that there is absolutely no "blocus" tactics within FIFA: not one single member of the competent FIFA committee, or the General Secretary has the slightest idea of placing obstacles in Australia's way. But in all dealings one should carry out the decision taken. It may be that you have also followed the World Cup preliminary competitions in the other Confederations, and so you will know that Haiti and El Salvador both played nine matches before they knew who would qualify for the final competition. You will also know that if in other groups two or more teams had been equal in points, additional matches would have become necessary. You certainly know that normally teams prefer to play off, and do not like the drawing of lots. Therefore all the arguments put forward under point 3 in your letter have nothing to do with Australia, but are the consequences of the existing regulations.

● *Is it fair that Israel only had to play two matches — against New Zealand — and Australia six, possibly seven, before they meet in the Asia-Oceania group final play-off?*

It is neither FIFA's nor Israel's fault that North Korea is out of the competition.

(True. But some three months ago, almost anticipating the Rhodesian crisis, we proposed to FIFA in writing to regroup the teams in 15/1 and 15/2, either making three pairs or making two groups with three teams. Then FIFA told us that there was "insufficient time" for changes. Yet two months later FIFA still had to find time to make drastic changes and locate Mozambique for our matches.)

● *One can only assume that FIFA created the hybrid Asia-Oceania group with scant regard for geography. There appears no justification whatsoever for Rhodesia and Australia to be together, especially if Rhodesia only has to play two ties compared with Australia's six.*

No marathon was imposed on Australia by FIFA, but you will realise after having carefully and objectively examined the situation that the difficulties have arisen because of political interference beyond FIFA's control. As far as the knowledge of world geography is concerned, I presume that the same maps are used in Sydney as in Europe.

(Unfortunately Dr. Kaser has evaded the question which, to put it bluntly, is: Why was Rhodesia REWARDED, having caused all the difficulties in the group, with a bye?)

● *Is FIFA aware of the financial burden the Australian Federation has to assume to fulfil the World Cup schedules imposed by FIFA?*

FIFA is fully aware of the financial problems. All national associations entering the World Cup know about the regulations and they will certainly have carefully studied also chapter 18 concerning financial matters.

(The regulations don't mention the possibility of a country being dragged around the world. If Australia does reach Mexico, we will have created absolute football history by either playing or travelling through ALL continents during our elimination labors: Asia, Africa, Europe (Rome) and America (Mexico).)

● *It's hard to understand why FIFA insists on accommodating Rhodesia, a pariah among nations, when the United Nations Security Council has imposed sanctions, carried by just about every member, on them.*

You seem to forget that Rhodesia is a full member of FIFA and has the same duties and the same rights as the other 135 national associations in membership with FIFA. Rhodesia has no more and no fewer rights than Australia, and the Football Association of Rhodesia is not responsible for political difficulties and complies fully with the FIFA statutes and regulations. Furthermore, you will know that Rhodesia was prepared to organise the 15/1 Group tournament in Rhodesia, but as you probably also know, countries bound by the UN Security Council decisions wouldn't have had their Governments' blessings to go to Rhodesia.

● *Since Mexico also adhered to the UN sanctions, is it not safe to assume Rhodesia will not be allowed entry if they qualify for the 1970 finals? Does this mean the World Cup will be taken away from Mexico should Rhodesia qualify?*

As far as Mexico is concerned, there is a written undertaking by the Government that visas will be granted to the finalist countries.

(Let's hope this won't be put to the test.)

May I conclude by telling you that you are absolutely mistaken if you and your colleagues think that FIFA is disregarding Australia.

Such statements are untrue and against one's better knowledge.

FIFA is willing to co-operate closely with the Press all over the world.

All we ask is that their criticism be objective and constructive, and as far as your final remark concerning the "head in the sand" policy is concerned, the future will prove where this policy has its home port.

By the way, reading the press cuttings, I feel that most of your colleagues in Sydney are not very conversant with soccer problems or soccer regulations.

Vic. honours were equally divided

— From JIM COOK in Melbourne —

In direct contrast to 1968 when Croatia scooped the pool to win all three major competitions in Victorian soccer, 1969 has brought a complete contrast with four clubs sharing the spoils.

Additional competition this year was the State League Cup, played off by the top four in the league competition.

Major competition winners in 1969 were:—

- Ampol Cup — SM-Hellas.
- State League Winners — JUST.
- State League Cup-Winners — Juventus.
- Dockerty Cup-Winners — Croatia.

Other honors:—

- Harry Armstrong Reserve Cup-Winners — Wilhelmina.
- Federation Cup-Winners — Altona.
- Promoted to State League — Alexander.
- Promoted to First Division — Prahran City, Green Gully Ajax.
- Promoted to Second Division — Princes Park Hercules, Brighton.
- Promoted to Third Division — Western Suburbs ICI, Mooroolbark.

Relegated Clubs:—

- From the State League to First Division — Box Hill.
- From the First Division to Second Division — Maribynong Triestina, Coburg.
- From the Second Division to Third Division — Park Rangers, Ferntree Gully.
- From Third Division to Fourth Division — University-Melbourne, Glenroy.
- Bottom pair in Fourth Division — Rosebud Mornington.

Best team: JUST

Only scrambling clear of relegation with a flimsy superiority in goal-average over Alexander in 1968, the Footscray side made a dramatic come-back. To win the League, reach the final of the State League Cup only to be beaten in extra-time and also get to the semifinal of the Dockerty Cup was a wonderful achievement. And, of course, on top of this JUST played the best brand of soccer throughout the season and the team might even have done better had it not been for the "temperamental tantrums" of two of their best players.

Unluckiest team: Wilhelmina

With a commanding lead at the top of the State League with only a handful of games to be played, they fell by the wayside and their ultimate downfall was contributed to some extent by player disputes.

Argus Medal winner: John O'Neill (Hakoah)

The former Drumcondra, Preston North End and Barrow defender who represented Eire at international level stepped forward from the back division to succeed Dick Van Alphen at centre-half and had a great season.

Outstanding player: Jim McKay (Croatia)

Even with his co-partner Billy Vojtek playing well below his best form for most of the season, the former Airdrie inside-forward played a leading part in Croatia finishing in the "four" and winning the Dockerty Cup. McKay excelled in almost every facet of the game.

Most valuable player: Davie Closs (Polonia)

Polonia in all sorts of trouble mid-way through the season asked aid from Juventus and acquired Davie Closs, Jimmy Millar and Jim Malloy. Closs, without taking Polonia to safety single-handed, played a tremendous part in their revival and has proved their best signing in years.

Best import: Jackie Reilly (Juventus)

The six foot plus 'keeper who joined Juventus early in the season after five years on the books of Hibs in Scotland and a year in American soccer with Washington Whips turned in an array of magnificent performances in goal which were highlighted by his superb showing for Victoria against Greece.

Best prospect: Billy Rogers (Melbourne)

Bought from Metro club Sunshine City, this 20-year-old centre-forward and brother of Doug Rogers (ex-Hakoah) can crack home the goals and has all the necessary attributes to go far in the game.

Most improved players:

● **Marian Sowula (Polonia):** a fullback and product of the Polonia juniors, he has by his consistent displays this season assured himself of a permanent first team placing.

● **Dino Di Marchi (Juventus):** dropped for a long spell early in the season and then reinstated when Juventus were finding goals hard to come by, he came back with a bang to become the club's leading scorer.

● **Terry Hargreaves (Croatia):** a big transformation in this winger. Last season he was not a first team regular and seldom in any of his appearances looked like making the grade. Seems to have gained much more confidence in his play and is now full of fire and vigor.

● **Henri Siwka (Polonia):** not a regular first team member until this season, Siwka with his agility, scoring technique and combination with Malloy has pepped up the Polonia attack.

Greatest loss: Billy Cook (Slavia)

The former Australian and Victorian defender was compelled to retire from the game at the age of 29 after giving great service at all levels.

Unluckiest player: Andrew Kazi (JUST)

Suffered a broken leg early in the league season. Expected to be fit to resume at the start of the new season.

Top scorer: Wim Spiekerman (Wilhelmina)

The former Dutch amateur international forward cracked home 18 goals in 22 league games.

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$20,000 FEE ON JOHNNY PERIN

— From ALLAN CRISP in Adelaide —

Sydney clubs had best install additional poker machines and Melbourne clubs arrange blanket collections if they want John Perin because his transfer fee is $20,000.

Adelaide Juventus chairman, Bob Masi, told "Soccer World" that three Sydney clubs, Hakoah, St. George-Budapest and Marconi, and Melbourne-Juventus, had officially sought a transfer for Perin.

"The highest offer we've received is $8,000, but we won't accept such a low figure for an Australian international," said Masi.

The Juventus official dismissed my suggestion that $20,000 was an unrealistic figure.

"If Juventus loses a player of Perin's calibre our gate takings will suffer an alarming decline."

"A $20,000 fee would constitute an Australian transfer record, but in this situation, it's justified."

Perin himself has nothing but respect for his Adelaide club, but would love to play for a Sydney club.

And what does the player consider is a fair transfer fee?

Answer — "$7,000."

"Soccer World" readers can be the judge, but bear in mind that John Perin is a very modest young man.

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COOK'S TOUR OF MELBOURNE

Top Berlin club Hertha will play Victoria at Olympic Park on January 3. Hertha will also play in Bangkok, Singapore, Perth, Auckland, Djakarta and Hong Kong. Champions of the Berlin League in 1968-69 and currently at the top again, they had an overseas tour last year in Africa and in 1967 visited Central and North America. Hertha were undefeated on both tours.

—o—

Peter Laraman, the former Slavia, Hakoah and Pan Hellenic forward, is contemplating a come-back into the game after being out of action for nearly two seasons by virtue of his employment. The former Charlton Athletic and Torquay United player, who is still a registered player with Pan Hellenic, could join a State League club in Melbourne if a moderate fee can secure him. Laraman has been back working in Melbourne for most of this year.

—o—

If passport difficulties can be overcome, the newly elected Slavia committee are likely to bring at least three good class Czech players here for next season.

—o—

Bob Wyatt, the former Wilhelmina winger who returned to England some time ago, is now playing with a Midland League side.

—o—

Two newcomers for Hakoah are Dennis Panther, a defender who was on the books of Charlton and Chelsea, then spent a season in the Bahamas playing soccer, and Barrie Sansom, a winger who had spells with the reserve sides of West Bromwich Albion and Coventry City.

—o—

The Metropolitan Disciplinary Committee burned the midnight oil many times this season dealing with over 230 field offenders who got little sympathy from chairman Charles Hay and his committee determined to stamp out rough play. However, Hay, at one time well-known as a leading official in Austrian soccer, feels the Metropolitan League and its players need a lift in another direction, and commencing in 1970 he will award gold medals to the best and fairest players of each of the four divisions with silver medals to the runners-up.

—o—

First Division side Richmond certainly do things in a big way for their top players. At their annual ball recently, Rolf Beinroth, ex-Lions, was voted the best and fairest player with a trip to New Zealand for two as his prize. Leading scorer Manfred Kuhn got a trip for two to Sydney for his efforts.

—o—

Two well known soccer identities are UK bound at Christmas for different reasons. They are Bill Curran, team manager of South Melbourne Hellas, who will combine business with pleasure and make an intensive search for new players for his club whose stock dwindled considerably in 1969, and George Yelland, a member of the Metropolitan Disciplinary Committee and tipped for a bigger post once the new VSF set-up is known, who will be visiting relatives. Both Curran and Yelland are former State League referees.

—o—

The Argus Medal, only player award in top Victorian soccer, will be renamed the Bill Fleming Medal in future. The "Argus", once a leading newspaper in Melbourne, folded up 12 years ago. Bill Fleming, still around and donor of the medal, was one of its leading writers.

—o—

Jim Lapish, the 19-year-old Hakoah defender who has had quite a number of first team appearances over the past two seasons returns to England soon.

—o—

Stephen Russell, a 19-year-old left winger who has been playing non-league soccer with Runcorn United in England, is due to arrive in Melbourne soon to join South Melbourne Hellas.

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EXHILARATING FINALE SAVED APIA'S SEASON

— By LOU GAUTIER —

The last 10 minutes of the 1969 season finally brought triumph to APIA after nine months of sweat and tears.

Without Ernie Campbell's hat-trick out of the blue in the dying stages of the Grand Final replay, APIA would have had to contemplate on a disappointing season which would have marked the beginning of the end for a team which not so long ago had held a firm grip on the local soccer scene.

The exhilirating Grand Final notwithstanding, 1969 won't go down as one of APIA's greatest years.

A distant fourth in the championship, and indifferent Ampol Cup performers, APIA displayed little of their customary dash until the final play-offs.

UNSETTLING

The lack of a playmaker to fill the shoes of the Argentinian wizard, Campana, had an unsettling effect on their championship fortunes.

Solid as ever in defence, with the best pair of fullbacks in the business in Australian Internationals Keith and Ackerley, the team fell way below previous standards in attack.

Up to the final round-robin matches APIA rarely clicked in attack where Archie Blue alone lived up to expectations.

Consistently their best forward, the Australian international had one of his best, if not most outstanding, seasons in 1969, and it's a tragedy that bungling cost him the berth he richly deserved in the Australian World Cup squad.

Campbell and Mackinnon, especially the former, made little impression during the championship, but Campbell more than made up for months of frustrating apathy when he sprung to life in those unforgettable last 10 minutes at the Sydney Sportsground on September 30.

CAMPBELL

That Campbell has what it takes to reach the top is undeniable.

Naturally gifted with clever ball control and a fine shot, it's only temperament which has kept him from hitting the high sports yet.

It wouldn't surprise in the least, however, if he finally came good next season and clinched an overdue place in the national squad.

It took APIA months to recover from the loss of Campana and Giacometti, the backbone of their forward-line for the past three seasons.

Luckily, their British imports, Danny McKinnon and Blues settled in faster than most, and when the round-robin came along, APIA's attack, so sluggish the previous months, literally exploded.

It had been a long agonising wait for the proud APIA, but triumph in the Grand Final must have seemed all the more sweet for it.

The promise shown by APIA's forward division late in the season should present no worries for whoever coaches the side in 1970, but mid-field is where the problem may lie.

Bottalico, APIA's "Captain Courageous", may not be at his faithful post next season and he will be hard to replace, having epitomised APIA and served them so well for almost a decade.

PARTNERSHIP

It won't be easy to replace Bottalico, whose partnership with Hughes, who probably still has another year of top football left, laid the foundations for many an APIA triumph.

APIA's immediate defence, on the other hand, should again be formidable with Rorke, Ackerley, Van Blerk, Keith and Sambrook still in their prime.

For APIA the future should hold no terror and in 1970 it's London to a brick on they will again hold the spotlight.

One or two judicious off-season acquisitions could even put them back on their pedestal of the mid-sixties.

Hakoah had lean spell

A coaching crisis midway through the season, Fekete's prolonged honeymoon, Yaager's injury and the sale of most of their classy reserves explain in part why Hakoah failed to win a single prize in 1969.

The kingpins of 1968 when everything they touched turned into gold, Hakoah this year had a very lean time.

Their best result was third place in the championship, a paltry performance compared with their all-conquering 1968 exploits.

Although Hakoah had no place to go but down after winning everything the year before, one wouldn't have thought the picture would have altered so drastically in the space of 12 months.

Many reasons contributed to Hakoah's fall from grace in 1969.

MANY REASONS

Among the more obvious, and in what I feel was their order of importance:

● The sale of so many proven first graders — Jones, Edmunds, Stewart, Spilarewicz — whose absence was sorely felt in the latter stages of the season.

● Coach Doug Holden's abrupt departure for Auburn, and especially the management's failure to replace him with a bona fide coach.

● Bob Fekete's honeymoon jaunt to Europe right smack in the middle of the championship. Fekete, the perfect midfield foil, was never replaced.

● Dennis Yaager's industrial injury which robbed Hakoah of Watkiss' presence in attack.

● The enigmatic form of Willie Rutherford, a match-winner when the mood strikes him if ever there was one, but whose baffling moods were anything but consistent in 1969.

● The "quiet" season of Roy Blitz whose pricy transfer returned few dividends, but who could get back into his brilliant stride next season and pay back every cent of the $5,000 he cost.

● The none too convincing club performances of Allan Marnoch, whose best games all through the year have been with the national team, and Peter Fuzes' deterioration in recent months.

On the credit side Hakoah were again well served by the ever-present, faithful Hillsdon, the terrier-like Danny Walsh, a human dynamo who carried the midfield for most of the season and, of course, Ray Baartz, easily their most consistent forward.

LET-DOWN

Many teams would have had ample reason to be satisfied with Hakoah's results in 1969, but for a team that swept all before it the year before it was a monumental let-down.

Only on rare occasions did the team sparkle and turn on the displays that earned it unchallenged supremacy 12 months earlier.

The talent was still there, and still is, as there is no club in Sydney with so much first class material available, but the method, more often than not, was missing.

Hakoah this week signed Mick Jones as their coach for the coming season.

It will be his difficult task to bring the team back to its past pinnacle in 1970.

BOB FEKETE

This can only be achieved if he is given a free hand, without the outside interferences which are the bugbear of Sydney club soccer.

With such an abundance of class and resources, it would be unrealistic not to again include Hakoah among the probable leaders and trend-setters next season.

Before concluding, let's spare a thought for Hakoah's retiring president, Karel Rodny, who has served them so well.

It's hard to visualise Hakoah without their cigar-puffing president at the helm.

WITH THE AMATEURS

ILLAWARRA WILL GAIN

— By KEITH GILMOUR —

Greatest gainer from the new Australian Amateur Association could be the Illawarra district amateurs.

With the ACT having full membership, Illawarra and other southern NSW associations are already linked with Canberra through membership of the southern branch of the NSW ASFA.

If Illawarra remain with the ACT their players will gain direct State representative honors.

A move to separate Illawarra into North and South Illawarra Associations was unsuccessful recently.

The issue is not dormant, however.

Last year Illawarra inter-district representatives played in the Sydney series.

If all parties wanted this again it should have no effect on Illawarra's joining forces with the ACT.

Overall, Illawarra's support is an important contribution to strenghtening soccer in the whole of Southern NSW and the ACT.

Northern NSW gained full membership to allow the amateur pattern to follow the same design as the senior State Federations.

Some reorganisation will be necessary as the Hunter Valley body is dormant and a bond of trust has to be nurtured before the full potential of this magnificent soccer area is fully released.

North West towns such as Armidale, Tenterfield, Gunnedah and Tamworth cater for soccer in large measure.

Messrs Jones and David Childs of the Northern NSW Federation recently received a very pleasant surprise when touring coastal towns.

Grafton has nine soccer pitches in a large park at South Grafton.

There are 987 registered players in a town of 16,000 people!

Important advances

Seventy-two teams take the field each week.

Lismore has 51 teams, mostly in junior grades.

Coffs Harbour, Kempsey and Macksville also play in various grades, but their teams have yet to reach the standards set at Grafton and Lismore.

Already one potential star has been unearthed at the Kinchella Boys Home near Kempsey.

He will come down to join a Newcastle club next season.

High Schools from the Northern Rivers are likely to provide an important new segment in the NSW CHS Tasman Cup competition for 1970.

With more penetration into Taree and Port Macquarie there could be important advances on the way, which must benefit soccer as a whole.

Jaded Manly disappointed

— By CHARLES SPITERI —

Manly-Warringah's return to Second Division did little to retrieve their badly dented morale and consequently the team only finished seventh in the 1969 competition.

A promotion contender early in the season, Manly gradually, but steadily, lost ground, and long before the first round was completed it was pretty obvious they would not even reach the "first four".

Ironically, this was almost the same team that played in First Division the year before, plus a few "additions", but they could not hold their own against allegedly "inferior" opponents.

Although their defence compared favorably with other teams in the division, the forwards failed time and again to rise to the occasion, resulting in the loss of many valuable points by the odd goal.

WRETCHED SEASON

However, Manly's wretched season could not particularly be blamed on any one department, as the team's all-round effort lacked the determination of previous years.

Jan Tuinman, who came into NSW representative calculations in 1968, had an up and down sort of season and seemed to lack the confidence of earlier days.

Others who could not match past performances included Neil Campbell, Greg and Bobby Jones, Jim Hughes and Colin Waller — all outstanding players in 1967 and 1968.

Of course, there were multitudes of reasons of Manly's failure to maintain form and cohesion, but it looks as though the success that came Manly's way in the last three years — from the Amateur League to First Division — was too premature and sudden.

Newcomers to the fold that made their mark were local product Bill Hutcherson, who played most of the season as the regular centre-half, Brian Stocks and Bert Jagger, the halves, Hugh Hendry in mid-field, Alan Crawford on the wing and John Maloney, the striker who scored most of Manly's 38 goals.

Manly won eight games throughout the season, drew five and lost the remaining nine, conceding 36 goals.

At the end of the season they lost the services of coach Denes Adrigan, who had guided them to great success.

It is generally accepted in club circles that the Manly boys had too much football over these few years and now it has been decided that preparations for the 1970 season will not start until January.

Three coaches were appointed to coach the three grade Federation teams in 1970, headed by Brian McDonald (ex-Hakoah-Melbourne) who will be in charge of first grade.

Inter surprised

Going through their second season in the division, North Sydney-Inter were one of the teams with no ambitions, yet contrary to forecasts made a marked improvement to finish sixth.

Still without a fenced-in home ground and very little support all-round, their small band of administrators have been able to acquire enough players to consolidate their position and gain a lot of respect from the stronger Second Division teams.

The acquisition from APIA of Argentinians Jose Sileoni and Giulio Santoro made the greatest impact in the side, but other players like Valdimar and Dos Santos also made a substantial contribution towards the success of the team.

Santoro, the APIA reject, scored most of the side's goals, followed closely by Valdimar and Dos Santos — the latter scoring many goals from the half-back position.

Inter finished up with nine victories, nine defeats and four draws and were most impressive against the top teams, taking three points from Wests and Manly.

At times, the side floundered badly against the weaker teams for no apparent reason. These setbacks, somehow, always seemed to follow a good performance.

Cohesive coaching

Karl Jaros, now Melita Eagles' coach, directed Inter for a while, but this association did not last long and eventually Mike Mazzina, who incidentally brought Santoro and Sileoni to join APIA, was appointed for the job.

Under his coaching Inter achieved cohesion and showed more consistency and were more balanced in both defence and attack.

At the end of the season, Valdimar and Dos Santos took off for Portugal, while Sileoni and Santoro went to Argentina, but all have promised to return.

Inter will be hard-up if these promises are not kept.

Although the club has made steady progress in the past two years as far as the first grade is concerned, they have completely neglected the reserves.

Their third string team was a complete disgrace, losing all 22 matches, only scoring four goals in the full season and conceding 194.

RHODESIA'S SUSPENSION PREDICTED

We make a bold prediction here: at the Mexico City Congress next year, Rhodesia's FIFA membership will be either cancelled or suspended.

The individual Rhodesian footballers may be blameless, but as their country's odious presence in international soccer meets a blank resistance, the countries will be certain to read them out of the movement.

It is the Ian Smith regime that denies the vote to the overwhelming majority of colored Rhodesians; it is the Rhodesian government that promotes apartheid.

It's idiotic for FIFA to expect that sport and politics can be entirely divorced; as long as governments and not football associations run the countries of the world, the two will regrettably cross each other's path.

— PAUL DEAN

World Cup is without Asians

— *From S. USHIKI in Tokyo* —

Is the World Championship not for Asia? And, is the World Cup only for professionals?

These are the principal questions arising from the Seoul Tournament — the preliminary competition of Group 15-1 for the World Cup.

Three nations participated in the competition, and Australia, the only semi-professional side of the three emerged the winner, thus going on to meet Rhodesia in the second round.

It is already clear from this that no Asian team will appear in Mexico next May.

The winner of the Australia-Rhodesia contest is scheduled to meet Israel to decide which nation qualifies for Mexico.

However, not one of the three is an Asian country.

The Australian team is composed of European immigrants, while Rhodesia is an African country.

Israel, although affiliated to the Asian Football Confederation, is not considered to be an Asian country, because its people are white.

Although the outcome could hardly be considered fair to Asian amateur footballers, as a competition the tournament was undoubtedly a success.

All the games were attractive and hard, without excessive problems.

Theoretically, the teams were more or less evenly matched.

While the Australians, who are in any case semi-professional, had a physical advantage combined with superior speed and marksmanship, the Koreans were well trained, and exceptional in their fitness and fighting spirit, and the Japanese, although handicapped by the absence of their ace striker Kunishige Kamamoto, who has been ill since last June, were good tactically.

As far as the organisation of the tournament was concerned, there were the inevitable criticisms.

However, the holding of the tournament cannot but benefit the future of Korean football.

Certain local journalists criticised the attitude of ultra-patriotic spectators, whose vocal support was undoubtedly directed by committee officials.

Also, the Australian and Japanese coaches complained about the quality of training fields.

But in general, the enthusiasm of the Korean football following, together with the great public interest generated by the tournament, can do nothing but benefit the development of football in that country.

READERS' LETTERS

NATIONAL TEAM MUST BE SEEN

May I commend you on your fine paper which keeps the Australian soccer fans informed of world soccer news as well as local.

I have one regret. Being a Queenslander, I am disappointed that our soccer hardly ever gets a mention.

In Queensland now a great step forward has been taken by the QSF who have acquired a suitable ground and work has begun to build a State headquarters of international standard.

This is a great step forward by Queensland soccer, and more importantly, Australian soccer.

This brings me to my second point: let's not get carried away with Australia's success so far in the World Cup.

We still have to develop soccer on an Australia-wide scale.

People have heard and read about John Warren, John Watkiss, Ron Corry and the other World Cup team members, but how many people in Australia have seen them in action?

We want more people to play and support soccer, so we must sell soccer and there is no better way than using the World Cup side.

A tour of NSW country areas, Queensland and the other States will promote soccer.

Standards of the smaller soccer States such as Queensland must be improved to get Australian soccer really and truly on its feet.

So I am asking you to use your influence and try to convince the big boys of NSW and Victoria that Queensland and the other States want help to improve their standards.

One way is to organise matches, so that our players can get an opportunity to play the best.

We may fare badly in the beginning, but in the long run it should put Queensland soccer on the map, for here in Queensland there must be budding Corrys, Warrens and Baartzes only waiting to be developed.

J. Drake,
Coorparoo (Qld.)

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SYDNEY CLUB PATROL

APIA left Thursday for the now traditional visit to New Caledonia by the Sydney Grand Final winners. On Friday and Sunday they will meet the New Caledonian national team, winners of the recent South Pacific Games, and play another match next Tuesday before returning home on Thursday.

JOSEPH HUBERT, a well-known city watchmaker and jeweller and a great soccer follower, presented national team coach Joe Vlasits with a silver tray as a token of appreciation for Australia's splendid victory in the Seoul World Cup qualifying tournament.

* * *

TIBOR KALMAN, a Hakoah director, again travelled to watch the Australian team in action. Kalman, who was in Seoul last month, is now in Mozambique before hopping over, we all hope, to Tel Aviv.

* * *

RON DUNCAN, who has served in almost every capacity with North Bankstown, was last week elected as club president. Ron's ambition is to rebuild the first grade team and get them back in Second Division in quick time.

* * *

The ADDRESS of the Australian team in Mozambique is: Hotel Girassol, Post Office Box 1045, Lourenco Marques. Letters should be posted by 3 p.m. on Thursday or 8 a.m. Saturday to catch the South Africa-bound mail. If you want to write to the team in Istael, send all mail care Israel FA, Post Office Box 88, Tel Aviv.

JOHN BUTLER, the 20-year-old free-scoring centre of Slavia, left Melbourne for Sydney last Sunday. Butler had previously signed for Prague before leaving Melbourne and according to unofficial reports the Sydney side got him for a bargain price.

* * *

The ASF has requested FIFA to appoint a New Zealand REFEREE for the return match between Australia and Israel in Sydney on December 14 if we eliminate Rhodesia. Two New Zealanders are fully qualified international referees, holders of a FIFA badge. They are Leslie Coffman and Thomas Delahunty.

* * *

MICK JONES will coach Hakoah in 1969. This will be the Englishman's third club in his 10 months in Australia. He came to Sydney to join Pan Hellenic, then moved to Yugal midway through the 1969 championship.

APIA will announce the name of their new COACH when they return from Noumea next week. The choice has now been narrowed down between a prominent local man and an overseas coach.

The ASF has rejected an INVITATION from the Hong Kong FA for Australia to play a match in the Crown Colony on their way back from Tel Aviv should we be successful against Rhodesia. Coach Joe Vlasits prefers that the team resumes training immediately in Sydney for the return match.

* * *

WESTERN AUSTRALIA, now playing in the King's Cup Tournament in Thailand, didn't seek the ASF's authorisation to take part. The ASF, however, is delighted with Western Australia's increasing participation in Asian soccer, even if they didn't do so well in the Merdeka Tournament.

* * *

MANFRED SCHAEFER assures us that the name of his newly-born baby girl, Kim, is quite coincidental. It has nothing to do with the fact that just about every other second Korean's surname is Kim.

* * *

NSW Federation secretary AULDEN BROWN suffered agonising pain last week with a chin infection. We wish him a prompt recovery, even though he only stayed away for a couple of days and was back in the office on Monday afternoon.

* * *

The SHOWGROUND seems to be a better proposition than the Sportsground as the venue for an eventual Australia v. Israel World Cup tie on December 14. The surface is in excellent condition and the Royal Agricultural Society, the owners, would allow a live telecast to be carried interstate as well as an all-ticket promotion, which wouldn't be the case with the finicky Sportsground trustees.

* * *

As we revealed exclusively last week, FRANK LOEWY is the new Hakoah president.

* * *

NORMAN FLANAGAN, a 23-year-old inside-forward from Irish club Drumcondra, has arrived to join South Coast United. Eddie Hall, another UK import, has been here for six weeks and two more Britishers are due in the very near future.

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rear of Hillsdale Plaza, Hillsdale.
Telephone: 661-3580

COMING ATTRACTIONS:
Friday, November 21: Hawaiian Night. Dancing from 8 to 12 p.m.
Saturday, November 22: Cabaret. Dancing from 8 to 1 a.m.
Sunday, November 23: Cabaret with special floorshow featuring Barry Wayne, Sydney's popular vocalist.
Friday, November 28: Cabaret Night — Special Artists' Night.
Saturday, November 29: Cabaret — Dancing from 8 to 1 a.m.
Sunday, November 30: Cabaret with special floorshow featuring Laurie Smith and Diane — novelty, instrumental duo.
● **Don't forget Ladies' Day on December 9. Free tickets at office.**

SUTHERLAND SHIRE Soccer Club Limited
10 Miranda Road, Miranda (Tel.: 525-1210).
Monday: Mixed Bowls. — **Tuesday:** Darts. — **Wednesday:** Ladies Bowls (morning), Table Tennis (evening). — **Thursday:** Men's Bowls.
Friday, November 21: The Carlton Trio.
Saturday, November 22: Cabaret Night — The Carlton Trio with Shelley May.
— *For members only.*